

from Woodrow Wilson to

Ida B. Wells

A Name Change Proposal for the
Portland Public Schools Board of Education

January 26, 2021



Presented By:

Members of the Wilson High School Renaming Committee

Introducing

The WHS

Renaming Committee



Members of the Renaming Committee



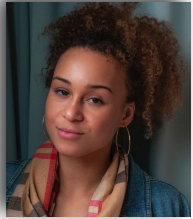
Ayesha Coning,
Vice Principal



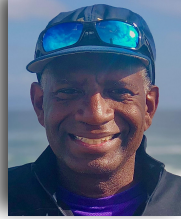
Norma A. Hamilton,
Paraprofessional



Filip Hristic,
Principal



Noreena McCleave,
Alumni



Martin Osborne,
Community Member



Deborah Walsh,
Parent and Community
Member



Ezell Watson III,
Portland Public
Schools-Community
Engagement Specialist



Ellen Whatmore,
Language Arts Teacher



Zach Winterspring,
Math Teacher

Student Members of the Renaming Committee



Hui Hui, Class of 2022



Lilliana, Class of 2023



Aslan, Class of 2022



Jonel, Class of 2022



Nura, Class of 2022



Senya, Class of 2022

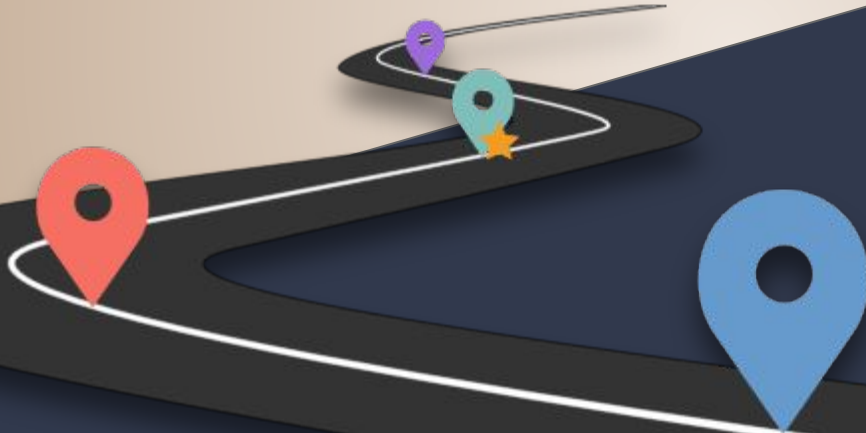


Mia, Class of 2021



Katisyn, Class of 2022

Our Committee's **Roadmap**



Administrative Directive 2.20.011-AD

Procedures for Naming School District Property

PPS Administrative Directive 2.20.011-AD

Procedures for Naming School District Property

(highlights)

- ✓ “ [N]otify the staff, students, parents, and community groups of affected schools about the naming process.”
 - ✓ “[E]nsure a process for all interested parties to provide input.”
- ✓ “Document[] the level of school community support . . .”
 - ✓ “Document[] the consideration given to the historical background of the name and its relevance to the community served by the school.”

Our Guiding Principles



Process Principles

*We are committed
to a name selection process
that will:*

- ❖ **Encompass equity and inclusion**, centering the voices, perspectives, and lived experiences of individuals and groups within the WHS and the broader community who have been historically marginalized
- ❖ Demonstrate **open communication, honesty, integrity, and transparency**
- ❖ Provide wide **variety of opportunities** to community members, stakeholders to participate and **offer multiple perspectives**
- ❖ Ensure our process **centers students voices** and participation along with the support and participation of staff, community members and alumni

Selection Principles

We are committed to choosing a new name for the school that will:

- ❖ Uphold the high school's current mission with particular focus on **justice, tolerance, and compassion**
- ❖ Be inclusive of the **identities, cultures, and lived experiences** of people who have been **traditionally overlooked**
- ❖ Represent the **educational, racial, and social equity** values to which we aspire
- ❖ Stand for **righteousness, justice, and morality**
- ❖ Create **lasting inspirational impact** on current/future students and help better meet schools educational mission

Our Journey

June 2020: Official request to rename WHS submitted and approved

July/August: Preplanning

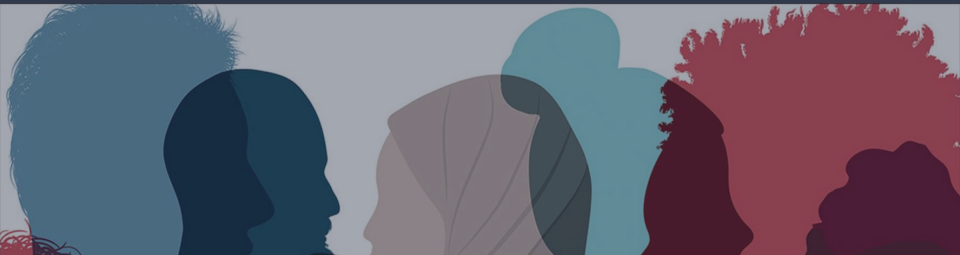
September: Committee selection

October: Process & communication tool design

Oct - December: Community outreach

December: Five finalists & more community outreach

January 2021: Name proposal submitted to PPS Superintendent

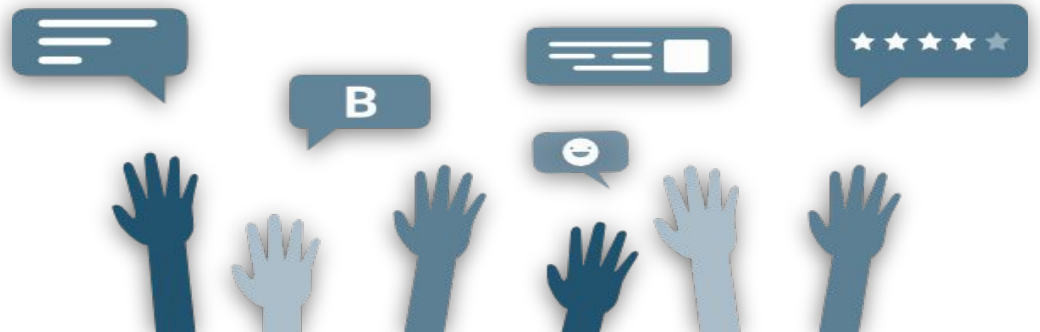


Our Community Outreach

688
nominations

1370
survey
responses

27
virtual
meetings



Building Consensus:

Five Incredible Finalists



Harriet Wilson
(1825 - 1900)

Mercedes Diez
(1917 - 2005)

Ida B. Wells
(1862 - 1931)



Sojourner Truth
(c. 1797 - 1883)

Beatrice Morrow Cannady
(1890 - 1974)

Our final selection:

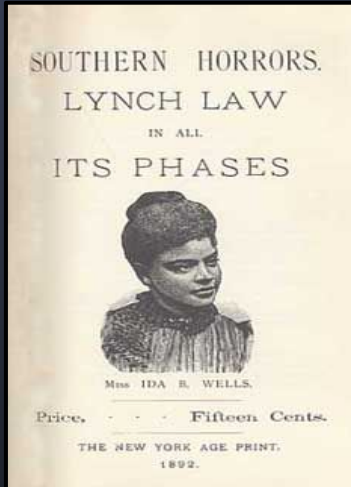
Ida B. Wells-Barnett
High School



Ida B. Wells-Barnett

(1862 - 1931)

· American woman · racial justice activist ·
anti-lynching journalist · co-founder of the NAACP
· co-founder of the National Association
of Colored Women · feminist · voting rights
advocate · social justice reformer · educator



*“The way to right wrongs
is to turn the light of truth upon them.”*

What the Community Told Us

Students, teachers, staff,
parents, and community members
voiced strong support for
Ida B. Wells–Barnett High School!



We look forward to your support.

Thank you!